

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

- Republic of Lithuania -

(As of March 2012)

With a longstanding experience in developing peaceful nuclear energy and securing nuclear materials Lithuania strongly supports ambitious task to increase nuclear security and secure all vulnerable materials around the world.

Building the International Legal Framework

Lithuania has joined and ratified international conventions and treaties related to nuclear security, including Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. On 20 May 2008 Lithuania ratified the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials. Accordingly, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania passed a resolution in order to implement the reinforced international regime of physical protection of nuclear materials and nuclear facilities at the national level and designated responsible institutions to implement the Convention. The State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate, which is the regulatory body for the nuclear safety and nuclear security of nuclear facilities in Lithuania, was appointed the point of contact in relation to matters within the scope of the Convention.

Lithuania actively participates in Proliferation Security Initiative and Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. Lithuania is a member of the European Safeguards Research and Development Association. In 2011 Lithuanian Nuclear Power Plant in Ignalina joined World Institute for Nuclear Security.

In June 2012 Lithuania will be hosting a regional workshop on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540, co-organized with OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and UNODA.

Strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency and National Nuclear Material Security System

Lithuanian experts took part in the meetings organized by the IAEA for the review of drafts of Nuclear Security Series documents. The most important of those was INFCIRC/225/Rev5. Pursuant to INFCIRC/225/Rev5 and in order to reinforce the national regime of physical protection, Lithuanian State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate reviewed and updated the Requirements for Physical Protection of Nuclear Facilities and Nuclear Materials. A committee for design basis threat review process has been established at the governmental agencies level.

Lithuanian experts were invited to review training materials for the IAEA organized physical protection training courses as well as to participate in these training courses as lectors thus contributing to the IAEA Nuclear Security related activities.

Lithuania has been taking part in international information sharing on illicit trafficking of nuclear materials by participating in the IAEA Illicit Trafficking Database programme.

After the final shut-down of Ignalina NPP at the end of 2009 the required physical protection level is maintained since spent nuclear fuel still remains in the units. New nuclear storage facilities are built under strict supervision of the regulatory Lithuanian institutions.

Establishment of Nuclear Security Centre of Excellence

Lithuania is heading towards the establishment of Nuclear Security Centre of Excellence. The Centre would mainly focus on organizing training, specialized seminars, simulation exercises in the field of countering nuclear smuggling. The Centre would also serve as a capacity building and training venue for the Lithuanian institutions responsible for the prevention, detection, response and mitigation of nuclear/radiological smuggling. Lithuania's vision is the Centre to become regional in the future, facilitating the exchange of best practices and lessons learnt from all interested countries.